PCNFB Chapter Minutes for March 9, 2017

The Monthly meeting of the Potomac Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind was convened at 7 p.m. by President John Halverson. Seventeen members were present.

The icebreaker was what is your favorite type of pizza.

The NFB pledge was recited.

The minutes of the February 9, 2016 meeting were read by Derek manners and accepted without correction.

Treasuror’s report for the period 2/9/2017 to 3/9/2017

Beginning balance: General Fund: $3894.02

Income:

Dues 20 recurring and new members $100.00

4 collected holiday banquit attendees $140.00

State Convention bus collected 1 way attendee $40.00

Mary Crane seminar attendance $1000.00

21 wine tasting attendees $945.00

Wine tasting raffle $200.00

50-50 cash Jan. Feb. collected $33.00

Total Income: $2458.00

Disbursements:

Wine tasting Expenses: $682.50

NFB Pac for March $75.00

NFB VPAD for March $75.00

Total Disbursements: $832.50

Ending Balance as of 3/9/2017: $5519.52

Youth fund: unchanged total Balance: $1,000.00

Sean went over the list of paid members until March and of course collected dues of members who were renewing.

Philosophy Discussion

President John Halverson posed the philosophy question of why funds are split between the national office on the national level and on the local level which is with the affiliates/chapters. Apparently, there are some who oppose to this request. The reason that funds are split is because the work of the Federation must continue. Our name, the National Federation of the Blind is well-known. Also, the funds from our national office are used to help individuals/families in legal cases and the cost of legal fees is never the responsibility of the individual/family. The great benefit of having such a uniform network that is the National Federation of the Blind is that wherever you go, if you were to move from one state to another, you would continue to have a nationwide network. This is so important because in other organizations, affiliates have to pay an outrageous fee just to have an affiliation to the national body, but that is usually not so beneficial for the local affiliate.

Scholarships

The national convention of the National Federation of the Blind will be taking place this year from July 10-15th 2017 at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, FL. There are two ways to attend national convention if you are a first-time or second-time goer to convention to receive an opportunity to defray costs to attend the national convention and also gain an opportunity to attain personal and potential goals. There is the McDonald scholarship available to Virgiania residents as well as the Kenneth Jernigan Scholarship on the national level. Candidates will be mentored by seasoned Federationists.

Programming Committee

membership as stated by President Riccobono is so imperative in allowing this organization to move forward. The programming committee has agreed to having a membership outreach seminar according to our membership survey results. We need to pick a Saturday in April that coincides well with Joanne Wilson’s schedule. We are planning on having some components on Federation philosophy, attracting new members, and retaining current and new members. We want to make this seminar engaging and interactive with skits. If anyone has any suggestions on helping to organize, please let Evelyn Valdez know.

Wine-Tasting

The wine tasting event was a success on Saturday, March 4th. The owner of bistro 360 was thankful that PCN had its event there. The experience was pleasant and many ordered wine that needs to be delivered now.

Church RentalIncrease

The church rental for the room has increased to just an additional $10. We will renew our annual contract.

Spring-Bling Auction

Jacki Brown our auctioneer is announcing our upcoming auction taking place on Saturday, June 10th. Bring your friends, your own wine and beer, and of course share with your friends. Time-shares will be auctioned off

Announcements

Derek Manners is asking if anyone knows any attorneys that lives in Arlington and practices law in Arlington county so that they can vouch for him because he is throwing his hat for the vacancy for a special election of the Virginia State Bar Council.

Tracy announced that there will be a student division weekend at the national Center in Baltimore, MD taking place on Saturday, may 20th. All student divisions/students high school ages through college level will be invited to attend. New jersey student divisions down to the Virginia student division will be present. There will be a advertising email to follow.

New member Brandon announced that he hosts a low-powered station in Arlington called Breaking Boundaries addressing all types of media for individuals of all disabilities. He would like our members to share any new info/announcements by being guests on his show.

Hope everyone had a Happy Easter!!!

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Evelyn Valdez,*

*Recording Secretary*

*2016 Virginia Fellow*